

PSYCHE

VOL. XX.

DECEMBER, 1913.

No. 6

THE DRAGON-FLY GENUS *AGRION* (*CALEPTERYX*) IN COLORADO.

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL,
Boulder, Col.

The beautiful genus *Calepteryx*, or as it seems we must now call it, *Agrion*, has a curious distribution in North America. Represented by several species in the eastern states, both north and south, it disappears westward of Iowa, to reappear, so far as the records have shown, only in the state of Washington, where *A. æquabile* subspecies *yakima* (Hagen) occurs on the Yakima River. However, on September 30, 1907, Mr. G. Hite took a male at Overland Lake, in the Canadian Zone of Boulder County, Col. This has remained unrecorded, because I repeatedly tried to identify it with one or other of the described forms, always without success. I did not like to propose it as new without seeing a good series of the genus, but now, after comparing it with the materials in the United States National Museum, I can only conclude that it represents a valid new race, as might have been expected.

Agrion æquabile coloradicum Nov.

Male. Structure and colors in the main as in *A. æquabile*; abdomen above rich purple, decidedly bluer than normal *æquabile*; structural characters of abdomen (both the apical and subbasal inferior structures carefully compared) not *quite* as in the *æquabile* compared, but probably not affording anything specific; anterior wing 29.5 mm. long, of which the apical 8 mm. is black; posterior wing 28.5 mm. long, of which the apical 10 mm. is black; in each case the black is quite intense, and has a practically straight inner margin, forming an angle with costa a little greater than a right angle; 24 antenodal cross-nervures in anterior wing, 22-24 in hind wing; costa blue.

As might perhaps have been expected, this appears to be nearest to the subspecies, *yakima*, which agrees in having the inner side of the apical black of the wings practically straight; in this character

both resemble the otherwise quite distinct *A. dimidiatum apicale*. In *yakima*, however, the apical third of the anterior wings is black.

True *A. aquabile*, of which I examined a very long series, is readily separated by the apical black of the wings, which is conspicuously less intense, having its inner side less well defined, and projecting toward the base of the wing in the middle, the shape of the inner margin being roughly that of a broad V. The *hudsonicum* form, which seems weakly characterised, goes with *aquabile*.

Possibly *A. yakima* should be considered a valid species, and *coloradicum* a subspecies of it.

The type of *coloradicum* has been placed in the National Museum.

DIDACTYLOMYIA CAPITATA SP. NOV.

BY E. P. FELT,
Albany, N. Y.

The peculiar male described below was collected by Mr. Owen Bryant in August, 1907, either at North Adams, Mass., or on Greylock Mountain. It is closely allied to *D. longimana* from which it is most easily separated by its slightly smaller size, the capitate terminal clasp segment and the relatively longer harpes.

Didactylomyia capitata sp. nov.

Male. Length 1.25 mm. Antennæ probably a little longer than the body, sparsely haired, the stems white, the basal enlargement dark brown; probably fourteen or sixteen segments, the fifth with a stem one-fourth longer than the cylindric basal enlargement, which latter has a length two and one-half times its diameter. Palpi; the first segment irregular, with a length about twice its diameter, the second lanceolate, with a length nearly four times its diameter, the third a little shorter and more slender than the second, the fourth about as long as the third, somewhat dilated. Mesonotum, scutellum and postscutellum mostly reddish brown, the scutellum slightly yellowish apically. Abdomen yellowish, reddish basally. Halteres and legs pale yellowish white. Genitalia; basal and terminal clasp segments both greatly produced, the latter decidedly capitate apically; dorsal plate short, broad, deeply and narrowly incised, the sparse setose lobes narrowly rounded; ventral plate short, broad, broadly and roundly emarginate. Harpes, basal portion broad, obliquely truncate, the inner angles produced as a somewhat irregular, capitate process as long as the basal portion and extending to the tip of the style, which latter is stout, tapering and narrowly rounded. Type Cecid. 1439.